

**TO: Honorable Members of the Veterans' Affairs Committee**

**FROM: Connecticut Alarm & Systems Integrators Association**

**RE: Concerns with SB-212 & HB-5299 (MOS Task Force Bills)**

**DATE: February 25, 2014**

The Connecticut Alarm & Systems Integrators Association (CASIA) is a state trade association comprised of security industry professionals working to protect lives and property through responsible use of electronic security, fire, and integrated alarm systems.

While CASIA appreciates and salutes the service of our men and women in the military and endeavors to see all veterans swiftly employed upon their discharge from service, CASIA has significant concerns with both SB-212, "AAC Implementation of the Recommendations of the Military Occupational Specialty Task Force" and HB-5299 "AAC The Findings of the Military Occupational Specialty Task Force". Specifically, Section 4 of both bills would circumvent the current standardized testing requirements by creating a blanket exemption for those trying to obtain occupational licenses in the trades, including the low-voltage electrical trade. Anyone (military or civilian) can currently appear before the appropriate trade license examining Board and upon review, if deemed qualified, be allowed to sit for the test. This process already exists. Section 4 of these bills, which bypass this current process, is not needed.

The Boards' duties are to protect both the consumer and the licensed individual, and often review military training on a case-by-case basis as appropriate. In addition, partial credit is already given by the CT Dept. of Labor for military experience when applying for any class license apprenticeship. Historically a review of military applicants has found both education and experience to be what the military needed. This does not necessary equate to the requirements of a public consumer/commercial market.

Therefore, CASIA respectfully asks you to reject the unnecessary provisions in Section 4 of SB-212 & HB-5299. Thank you for your consideration of CASIA's comments.